GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2418
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2007
PROJECT FOR IDENTIFICATION OF HERITAGE SITES AND TOURISTS DESTINATIONS
Surendran Shri Chengara

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to implement any project to identify heritage sites and tourists destinations in the country for revamping these centres to attract more tourists ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Government of Kerala has proposed any heritage centre or tourists destinations for its inclusion in the project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Development and promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, the Ministry of Tourism extends Central Financial Assistance to all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for development of destinations and circuits including heritage sites under the scheme of 'Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits."

(c) & (d): During the 10th Five Year Plan, the Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned Rs.138.10 crore for 61 projects including heritage sites and tourist destinations to the State Government of Kerala.

In the current Financial Year the following projects have been submitted by the State Government of Kerala:

1. Development of Farm Tourism in the Tea Estates of Plantation Corporation of Kerala Limited

2. Development of Pathirananal Bio-Park

3. Development of Kadungalloor Heritage Tourism circuit.

4. Destination Development of Wayanad

5. Development of Kerala Kalamandalam as a Tourism Destination

6. Development of Bekal as a Major Tourist Destination

The proposals that are complete in all respects are examined as per the Scheme guidelines and funds released on the basis of inter-se priority and availability of funds under the respective heads.